

**LIQUOR ADVISORY BOARD**  
**Tuesday, March 17, 2008**  
**6:00 P.M. – City Council Chambers**  
**Rockford City Hall, 425 East State Street**

**Present:**

**LAB Members:** Alicia DiBenedetto Neubauer  
Aaron Magdziarz  
Dan Roszkowski  
Craig Sockwell  
Julio Salgado  
Scott Sanders

**Absent:**

**Staff:** Todd Cagnoni, Deputy Director, Construction & Development Services  
Sandra Hawthorne – Administrative Assistant  
Jennifer Cacciapaglia, Attorney for Liquor Commission  
Kerry Partridge, City Attorney  
Frank Schmitt - Chief, Fire Prevention  
Jon Hollander, Public Works

**Others:** Reid Montgomery, Director Community & Economic Development  
Kathy Berg, Stenographer  
Applicants and Interested Parties

The meeting started at 6:00 P.M. A **MOTION** was made by Alicia Neubauer to **APPROVE** the minutes of the January 21, 2009 meeting as submitted. The **MOTION** was **SECONDED** by Craig Sockwell and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6-0.

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Sandra Hawthorne explained the format of the meeting will follow the Boards Rules of Procedure generally outlined as:

The Chairman will call the address of the application.

- The Applicant or representative are to come forward and be sworn in.
- The Applicant or representative will present their request before the Board
- The Board will ask any questions they may have regarding this application.
- The Chairman will then ask if there are any Objectors or Interested Parties. Objectors or Interested Parties are to come forward at that time, be sworn in by the Chairman, and give their name and address to the Zoning Board secretary and the stenographer
- The Objector or Interested Party will present all their concerns, objections and questions to the Applicant regarding the application.
- The Board will ask any questions they may have of the Objector or Interested Party.
- The Applicant will have an opportunity to rebut the concerns/questions of the Objector or Interested Party
- No further discussion from the Objector or Interested Party will occur after the rebuttal of the Applicant.

The Board will then discuss the application and a vote will be taken.

It was further explained to the public in attendance, applicants, objectors and interested parties that this meeting is not a final vote on any item. The date of the next meeting was given as Monday, March 30, at 4:30 PM in Conference Room A of this building. The public in attendance, applicants, objectors and interested parties were instructed that they could contact Sandra Hawthorne in the Zoning Office for any further information by calling the phone number listed on the top of the agenda which was made available to all those in attendance at the beginning of the meeting.

**09-LAB-001      511-513 East State Street**

Applicant: Michael Wright / Daniel Ford

Ward 3      **Sale of liquor by the drink** in conjunction with a nightclub with outdoor garden area in a C-4, Urban Mixed-Use District

The subject property is located on the south side of East State Street, 170 feet west of 3<sup>rd</sup> Street. Michael Wright, Co-applicant, reviewed the request. Mr. Wright explained he and his business partner previously owned this nightclub known as The Office from January 1991 to November 2001. They sold it to pursue other business interests, but have had the opportunity to re-purchase from the current owner. Mr. Wright explained the Office was operated as a nightclub during the seven years they had owned it and they wish to continue the use as a nightclub. He expressed they have always operated as a community oriented business and have taken pride in the business and property. Mr. Wright further explained they are now in the process of remodeling and updating the building. They will hire their own security and have more than adequate staff. Mr. Wright stated they will have 2 or 3 security staff on weekends, and as many as 6 to 8 during events such as the Waterfront and New Year's Eve.

Attorney Cacciapaglia had no questions of the Applicant, nor did the Board.

Staff recommendation was for Approval with 1 condition. No Objectors were present.

A **MOTION** was made by Scott Sanders to **APPROVE** the sale of liquor by the drink in conjunction with a nightclub with outdoor garden area in the names of Michael Wright and Daniel Ford, d/b/a The Office in a C-4, Urban Mixed Use District at 511-513 East State Street. The Motion was **SECONDED** by Alicia Neubauer and **CARRIED** by a vote of 6-0.

Approval is subject to the following conditions:

1. Compliance with the Liquor Ordinance

With no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 6:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,  
Sandra A. Hawthorne, Administrative Assistant  
Liquor Advisory Board